

GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

AGRAWAL SUSHIL RAVINDRA

RANK - 198

GS MAINS ESSAY



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Roll No. _____

ESSAY MOCK TEST

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt one essay from each section.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- After finishing the first essay, attempt the next on a fresh Page.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).

Name AGRAWAL SUSHIL

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature 

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Remarks

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SECTION - A

1. Our constitution is a ray of hope: H for Harmony, O for Opportunity, P for People's participation and E for Equality.
2. A national festival is an occasion to refine and rebuild the national character.
3. Trade is a communication of cultures and values; when trade stops, war comes.
4. The relationship between Human Intelligence and Artificial Intelligence (HI + AI) will necessarily be one of symbiosis.

SECTION - B

1. The noblest way to acquire wisdom is reflection.
2. It is easy to hate and it is difficult to love; in fact, all good things are difficult to achieve; and bad things are very easy to get.
3. If you are lonely when you are alone, you are in a bad company.
4. We can evade reality, but we cannot evade the consequences of evading reality.

Section A

1. OUR CONSTITUTION IS A RAY OF HOPE: H FOR HARMONY, O FOR OPPORTUNITY, P FOR PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION AND E FOR EQUALITY.

The date is 26th November, 1949, there is an atmosphere of jubilation all around. The Constituent assembly has finally agreed on the draft of our new Constitution. Having studied and learnt from the working of different constitutions across the world,

the Indian Constitution is one of the bulkiest and the most robust constitutions of the world.

From the major, to even the minutest detail, have been thought for and incorporated in the Constitution itself. Unlike the American Constitution, here the Fundamental Rights were incorporated right from the beginning itself. We learnt from the Irish example to incorporate the Directive Principles to guide the state policy.

This Constitution has kept such a diverse society together,
this constitution has forged more than 560 states into one nation, this constitution is behind the largest functional democracy in the world.

In short, our constitution is a ray of hope: H for harmony, O for opportunity, P for people's participation and E for equality. Though hope forms the letter and spirit of our Constitution, but the

Remarks

question that needs to be answered is, whether that hope has been translated into reality? or whether the constitution has failed us? How can we use this constitution, to fulfill the vision, for which it was written in the first place?

The Constitution of India derives its authority from the people. The Preamble reads "We the People..." and people form the soul of our Constitution. This constitution had translated into hope for our people. The hope of a better future, and a hope to achieve our aspirations

H for Harmony

Indian Constitution is a harmonious Constitution. The harmony our constitution emerges from the balance that it tries to achieve. The balance between the rights and duties of its citizens.

Remarks

Indian constitution realises the importance of rights. Rights that form the basic fundamental essence of ourselves, but it also exists on citizen's duties as mentioned as Fundamental Duties under Article 51A.

Another instance of balance that lends harmony to our constitution is that of balance between the different organs of the State. Indian state tries to balance between the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary via an intricate system of checks and balances.

The executive is responsible to the legislature, the legislature has the power to write laws, even amend the Constitution, and the judiciary keeps a check on the Constitutional validity of the law.

The harmony of our ~~the~~ constitution also stems from the fact that it explicitly promotes tolerance, fraternity and brotherhood. It ^{also} tries to prevent

Remarks

activities that strain our social fabric like preventing untouchability. The 'harmony' of our constitution was not only restricted to our present, but it got extended to our future.

The constitution tried to maintain harmony between the present and the future. Mindful of the fact of the limitations of a young democratic country, certain aspirations of ours were put into the Directive Principles of State Policy. Mindful of the fact that our constitution should be growing and evolving the amendability procedure of the constitution was neither too rigid, that it became almost impossible to amend like the US constitution, nor too liberal that it can be changed on a whim.

The hope of our constitution also extends to opportunity as much as to harmony.

Remarks

10 FOR OPPORTUNITY

The Indian Constitution was a moment of opportunity for her people. Opportunity to realise the freedom. To live a life of freedom, after centuries of colonial oppression. This freedom has been granted via freedom of speech, expression, trade and profession. Freedom to follow one's own religion and conscience. Not only does constitution guarantee these freedoms, but makes adverse provisions so one can realise this opportunity.

The fundamental right to education (Article 21A) guarantees free and compulsory education to all. The provisions on affirmative action, provide an opportunity for our Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward classes to have an access despite their backwardness.

Remarks

The Constitution provides for opportunity to realise one's dreams and aspirations and also assist in achieving those dreams. However, securing this dream would be incomplete without People's Participation.

P FOR PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

The Constitution, realises the potential of people, and has ingrained provisions to ensure their participation.

Article 326, provides for Universal Adult Franchise, and ensure the participation of all the adult population in the polity of our country. Be it rich or poor, able or disabled, knowledgeable or illiterate, all have equal participation in Indian Constitution, no one has been left out.

Remarks

To ensure the participation of women, the Constitution has made special provisions via reservation for women under 73rd and 74th Amendment Act.

Some states like Bihar, Gujarat have gone further and extended the $\frac{1}{3}$ limit to 50% of women in rural and urban local bodies.

People participation has been ensured by ensuring that not only vote, but can also stand in the decisions. People can participate in governance of our country both directly and indirectly. All public offices are open to all people of the country, and one can be an agent or positive agent in the society.

Lastly, our constitution provides us hope by ensuring 'equality'.

Remarks

E FOR EQUALITY

The Indian Constitution not only provides for Equality of law but also ensures equal protection of law. It understands that treating all alike would be a folly and only equally placed individuals can be treated equally.

Indian Constitution, provides for a law that is the same for all, be it the Prime Minister of the Country or the Common Man. No one is above the law.

Also, the provision of equal protection allows us to form special provisions for various socially disadvantaged groups including the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, Women, minorities, Anglo Indians etc.

Remarks

Having established that our Constitution is a ray of hope, we need to assess whether this hope has been translated into reality, and if our Constitution has failed us?

FAILURE OF CONSTITUTION

As a document, Indian Constitution is a work par excellence. However it is its working that has failed us.

Despite the provisions to ensure harmony, brotherhood, freedom of religion, equality, Indian society remains in strife. Caste violence, regionalism, religiousism, violence against women continues unabated and we have failed to stop them.

The question of Jammu & Kashmir's Constitution is unsettled even after ^{more than} 70 years of Independence and leads to a spread of unease across the country.

Remarks

Even in the constitution itself, many of our aspirations were kept in Directive Principles rendering them non-justiciable. For a long time people could not demand equal pay for equal work, the right for free legal services was achieved only in 1987.

Even today Uniform Civil Code remains an aspiration far away from reality...

Our Constitution may have granted us strong provisions for political justice, but fails to realise the social and economic justice. Right to work is still not a fundamental right. Many of these aspirations if had been incorporated in the part on Fundamental Rights, our nation would probably be more stronger than it is today.

Remarks

How can we achieve this vision?

The father of our Constitution, DR. B.R. Ambedkar has said that, it is not the Constitution that would fail us, it is the practitioners of our Constitution that would.

So, the path towards achievement of our vision goes through our Constitution itself.

We need to take urgent steps to guarantee various provisions of Directive Principles with a legal backing.

Strong political will and societal will be needed to work in Uniform Civil Code, right to work etc ~~and~~ for a more social and economically just society.

Further, various instances of abuses of Constitution like Article 356, which imposes State Emergency need to be rectified. Also, ~~it~~ positive progress can be made

Remarks

towards settling the Constitutional status of Jammu & Kashmir by the Supreme Court. It would definitely finish the unfinished task of the Presidential order of 1954.

In conclusion, our Constitution is strong, our Constitution is robust, our Constitution is future oriented, it is only the men who yield the power of Constitution that are weak, ~~are~~ and try to misuse the Constitution.

Our efforts should be to ensure that this does not happen. We as a society, need to keep a strong vigil to protect and defend the Constitution, which in turn protects and defends us. We need to adhere in the hope of our Constitution and realise its true potential, by strengthening it and preventing its misuse.

Our Constitution can only provide us a hope, it is we who have to realise it, to shape our nation to our vision. As Rabindra Nath Tagore said.

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high
Into that heaven of freedom my father let my country awake"

Remarks

Remarks

Section B

1. OUR CONSTITUTION IS A RAY OF HOPE.

- H: For Harmony
- O: for opportunity
- P: for People's Participation
- E: for Equality

Harmony

- ↳ b/w people tolerant & brotherhood.
- ↳ b/w different organs of the state
- ↳ b/w rights and duties
- ↳ b/w the present and the future
 - (-amendability)
 - (-provisions for future direction DPSP)
 - (-Env Provisions)

Opportunity

for the vulnerable sections
 - Women 78th LDUth A.A.
 - SC/ST, Backward and Pw

Reservations

opportunity to achieve our full potential
 Education to reach that potential.

freedom of speech
 freedom of religion
 trade & profession

People's Participation

↳ Rep. democracy
 ↳ ~~Participatory~~ ULB L'PUB
 ↳ We the People
 ↳ People are at the heart of our constitution

Has our Constitution failed us

- ↳ strong provisions for political equality but weaker ones for social & economic equality
- ↳ structural command violence
- ↳ JMC issue is still debated
- ↳ such an exhaustive document but has failed to include a mention
- ↳ Mentions in DPSP

Equality

- ↳ of ~~people's~~ law
- ↳ and equal status of law
- ↳ of opportunity

How can we make it better — Ambedkar — It is only the practitioners of the constitution who have failed us and not the constitution

Remarks

A weapon is only as good as the person yielding it. Must yield the weapon to usher in social & economic justice.

- ↳ UCC
- ↳ Kashmiri Question
- ↳ all can be solved by Individual death

Section A

1. OUR CONSTITUTION IS A RAY OF HOPE!

H for Harmony, O for opportunity, P for People's Participation and E for Equality.

Introduction:

Ambedkar Quote in Intro itself.

2 pages

Thesis:- Const. has kept the country, society together despite their differences, it is truly a ray of hope

Temporal

- H: _____
- O: _____
- P: _____
- E: _____

Harmony

Right Identities
 different organs of the state
 Promotes tolerance & brotherhood
 + blue present and future

Opportunity

to live a life of freedom
 to achieve your full potential - Education Fit
 to have access despite your backwardness

People's Participation

ingrained in our Const - we

Equality

4 pages

Has our Constitution failed us?

major expectations were kept in DSP - have held us back
 - sectarian violence
 JK issue is still pending despite 70 years have elapsed
 failed short of our expectations
 # (Strong for Political Justice but weaker ones for social and Economic Justice)
 Social Justice (Caste & women issues)
 Economic Justice
 ↳ huge unemployment

Solutions way forward

Remarks → How to strengthen our Constitution

Conclusions

SECTION B

WE CAN EVADE REALITY, BUT WE CANNOT EVADE
THE CONSEQUENCES OF EVAADING REALITY

The year is 1938, Nazi Germany has started her territorial expansion. It started with Sudentland (a part of Czechoslovakia), and later included the free city of Danzig and ultimately Poland, which formally started the World War II in 1939. All through this process, the leaders of other major power tried to evade the reality of times.

They evaded the reality that Germany was building up a massive military and arming herself, they evaded the reality about German Propaganda about "Lebensraum" — of creating a living space for all Germans. Above all they tried to evade the question of war by appeasing Hitler and gifting him Sudentland during

Remarks

the Munich Conference. They may have evaded the reality of war, but they could not evade the consequences of war. More than 20 million people killed, more than 100 million wounded, nations in tatters and a death and destruction all around the world.

Evasion of reality happens to all of us. Evasion of reality may be deliberate or it may be inadvertent. Evasion of reality might be because it enables one to not answer difficult questions or it may be due to the fact that one's mind is preoccupied by another problem that he did not see the reality sneak up upon him. Whatever be the cause, one can evade the reality but we cannot surely evade the consequences of evading at reality.

Remarks

One of the most glaring realities facing us today in present times is that of Environment and climate change. This change in reality is so slow and so imperceptible, that many believe climate change to be fiction, despite all evidences pointing towards its existence. Now, we had spent several decades evading the reality and rising temperatures, the consequences of which we cannot evade. Acid rain, ocean acidification, increasing frequency of extreme weather events, dry areas witnessing floods and areas of plenty facing drought. We can surely evade the reality, but we cannot evade the consequences of that reality.

Another area of evasion of reality can be seen in the Economy, or specifically the banking sector. The Evergreening of bank loans, allowed banks to roll over the unpaid loans, and report healthy status

Remarks

of the banks, when in actuality they were on ventilator support. The banks evaded the reality as big as they could, until the RBI forced them to come clean on their Non-Performing Assets. Today the NPA's have crossed 10% of the total deposits and total over 10 lakh crore. So big is the problem that, it threatens the entire economy of the country today. We could evade the reality but could not evade the consequences of that reality.

The evasion of reality is happening all around us and we fail to stand up to it. The poor status of women in Indian society today is because, we have evaded the reality of this question for centuries. Problems like female infanticide and feticide, violence against women, equal property rights for women, opportunities and an environment where the women can work, all are the consequences of us evading the

Remarks

reality of poor status of women in our society.

Evasion of reality is not restricted to women alone, but in India it extends to unbalanced regional development of the country. While even today

India is the fastest growing major economy of the world, this growth is primarily based out of urban ~~cent~~ centres and our border areas, underdeveloped regions unable to bear the fruits of this development, and still have to fight for basic ~~com~~ requirements like drinking water, electricity connections, LPG connections and even connectivity. The Railways have only drawn up a plan to bring all the seven North-Eastern capitals on the Railway map. The historical evasion of reality, has translated in the present backwardness of all these regions.

Remarks

The natural question that comes to mind is then why does one evade reality in the first place? Can evading the reality be advisable in some instances? And lastly, how does one find the solutions to these problems?

EVASION OF REALITY: BOTH DELIBERATE AND INDELIBERATE

While, in most of the instances the evasion of reality is deliberate, in some instances it can even be "indeliberate".

Lets take up the case of environment we discussed before. From the early decades of industrialisation, right upto the middle of the 20th century, this evasion of responsibility, as indeliberate as we were not aware of this climate change or were not conscious about it. Today if any nation refuses to believe it, it would be a deliberate evasion of reality.

Remarks

On the indeliberate side, many a times we simply do not realise when the reality creeps up upon it. The terrorism and radicalization in Jammu and Kashmir, slowly crept upon us and became this major internal security problem we are facing today. In the words of an ^{16th} Army Corps Commander, Indian establishment could never realise how the Sufist Islam of Jammu and Kashmir was converted into the Wahabist style of Islam in 1990's. They could not realise institutions like Western Union money transfer were used to finance those operations, right under their noses. The cause may have been indeliberate, but the consequences are for all of us to see.

Another indeliberate area of evasion of reality is due to the clouded mind. Due to our busy mil-lies and schedules, people do not realise the reality until

Remarks

it is quite late. Our faster pace of lifestyle has made us prone to various lifestyle diseases like diabetes, hypertension, obesity etc. Juvenile crime is on the rise, as parents are busy earning a livelihood and not realise the path of crime taken by their children. Once again we can evade the reality but not the consequences of it.

EVADING THE REALITY: NECESSARY EVIL

Many a times evading the reality may be a necessary evil. The individuals may choose to face the consequences of facing that reality, rather than confronting that reality head on.

For instance, the rise of China is for the entire world to see. That rise is creating many troubles for India like the Chinese soldiers presence in Pakistan occupied Kashmir, String of Pearls

Remarks

Belt and Road initiative, proxy antagonisation via Maldives (cancelling the airport project awarded to Indian company and granting it to the Chinese).

Despite all these realities, India is choosing to evade the reality, at present. We are in the meantime building our capacity to take on the Chinese, by raising: a Mountain Strike Corps, submarine project, advanced fighter jet aircraft etc.

We are even ready to face the reality at present, like the Doklam incident showed to the entire world, how India stood up against the might of China. But at present we choose to build up our capacity in military, in industry and in diplomacy to tackle the Chinese threat.

Remarks

SOLUTIONS TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF REALITY

The first and foremost solution to facing the consequences of reality is to accept the reality. Acceptance of it would enable us to lay the ground work to find out its solution.

The acceptance of the problem of climate change enabled us to arrive at the 2015 Paris climate deal. The acceptance of the problem of status of women, allowed the social reformers of the 19th century to work towards their uplift. The acceptance of the NPA problem by the RBI paved way for the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code to solve that problem.

Another long term solution can be to build the institutional and organisation capacity to look out for these realities, and take appropriate

Remarks

steps before its too late. For instance, the National Investigation Agency in a successful investigation, highlighted the modus operandi of financing the stone pelters from across the border. The uncertainty of this policy has brought about a major decrease in instances of stone pelting.

And lastly, the solution to face the consequences can come, if we do not evade the reality in the first place. America in under the presidency of Trump is dismantling the half a century old global phenomena of multilateralism under his "America First" policy. The solution of this would be for nations to stand up against this unilateralism of the United States. The courage to face up the problems in the first instance itself could enable us to prevent the consequences later on. If Britain and France, had stood up to Hitler earlier, the world may have prevented World War II.

Remarks

An conclusion, deliberate or indeliberate, an individual, society or even a nation, may choose to evade the reality, but it can never evade the consequences of that reality. A simple age old saying goes "by "A man reaps what he sows", by choosing to evade the reality a man is sowing the seeds of consequences which must be reaped later on.

Remarks

Remarks

Section B

WE CAN EVADE REALITY, BUT WE CANNOT EVADE THE CONSEQUENCES OF EVADING REALITY

Intro -> Hitler
Ostlich

EVADE REALITY

Status of women in the society
- 19th century Reform
- But it is still incomplete

balanced regional development
- Marxism

Environment

2008 Economic Crisis

CONSEQUENCES OF EVADING REALITY

Evading -> deliberate
Non-deliberate

America against the
jihadist against USSR

Some evasion of reality may be needed, for reality may be too horrific for the common people to know.

Evasion of reality may be deliberate or a natural response to non acceptance of any bad news but even with that we cannot evade the consequences of evading reality

(I) Many a times reality creeps up on us. Even though our eyes may have been open, but we fail to just see the reality in front of our eyes - Major - Corps Command

Remarks: Wahabism of Sufi Ashrafi of JDL - 1980's
Consequences..

I Deliberation evades reality

- to start the issue
 - answering the difficult questions.
 - another difficult problem to deal with
- ↳ widespread poverty
unemployment
poor health & nutrition.

We can evade REALITY BUT WE CANNOT EVADE THE CONSEQUENCES OF EVADING REALITY.

INTRO - Hitler.

Thesis - deliberate / non-deliberate } in both instances the consequences are for all forces.

deliberate

I Environment

II Economy - 2008 Eco. Crisis

III STATUS OF WOMEN IN OUR SOCIETY

IV BALANCED REGIONAL Development

V ~~the~~ Am use of Jihadist Radicalisation against the Soviets

VI Today - dismantling of the multilateral world. - either evade it or reverse it.

VII

Soln - facing the reality is the first step towards its resolution.

Remarks

Q Why do we evade the Reality?

- skip the issue
- answer difficult questions
- another difficult problem has clouded our mind